

Claims

- [c1] An apparatus for softening leather on baseball gloves and the like comprising:
drive means;
an upwardly extending drive shaft having a lower end portion coupled to the drive means and an upper end portion positioned at an angle from the axis of the drive shaft;
a ball head having a convex outer surface and a concave internal portion rotatably mounted on the upper end portion of the drive shaft;
means forcing a predetermined portion of the glove into engagement with the outer surface of the ball head; and,
means activating the drive means to rotate the ball head eccentrically in engagement with the glove to soften the leather.
- [c2] An apparatus for softening leather in accordance with Claim 1 further including:
a timer coupled to the drive means to control the degree of softness to be imparted to the glove.
- [c3] An apparatus for softening leather in accordance with Claim 2 further including:

a cabinet having the apparatus mounted therein, said cabinet having an upper surface with the ball head extending upwardly therefrom and a pivotal lid enclosing the upper cabinet surface, said lid having a concave inner surface to force a predetermined portion of the glove into engagement with the ball head.

- [c4] An apparatus for softening leather in accordance with Claim 3 wherein:
the concave inner surface of the lid comprises an elastomeric material.
- [c5] An apparatus for softening leather in accordance with Claim 1 further including:
a spring-loaded coupling having the upper angle portion of the drive shaft mounted thereto, said coupling being further being mounted to the shaft.
- [c6] An apparatus for softening leather in accordance with Claim 5 further including:
a coupling mounted within the inner portion of the ball head to permit rotation of said ball head about the coupling, said coupling being mounted to the upper angled portion of the drive shaft.
- [c7] An apparatus for softening leather in accordance with Claim 1 where:

the ball head includes a convex outer surface having a mushroom configuration, said ball head freely spinning on the angled portion of the shaft.